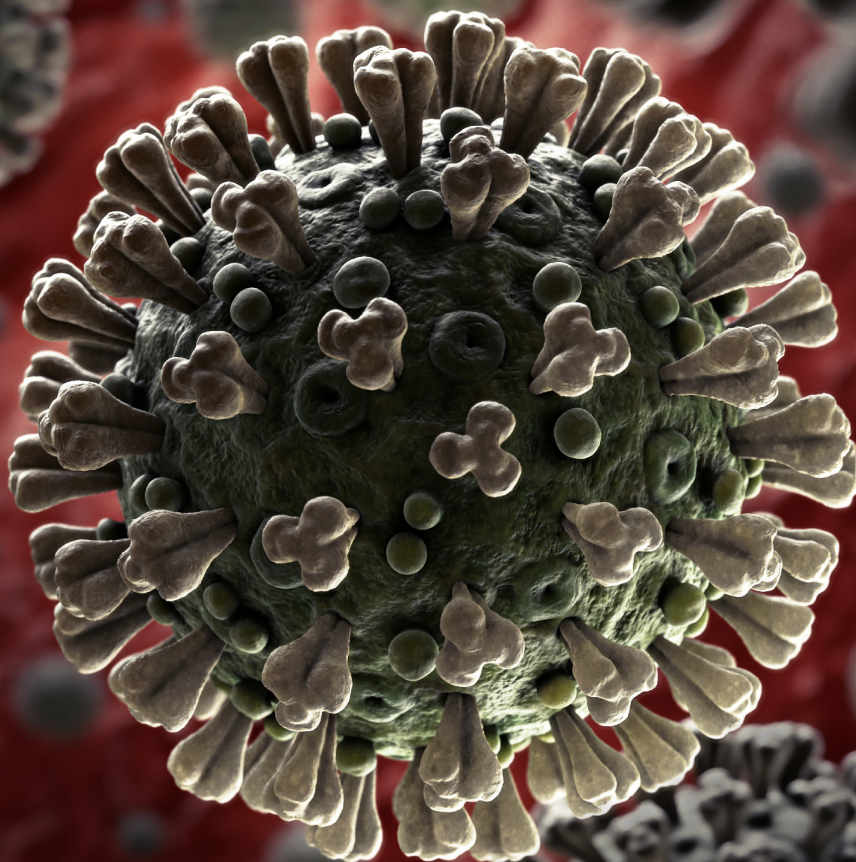


# TIME *for* KIDS

This illustration shows the virus that's making people sick around the world.



## BATTLING A VIRUS

**World leaders are working together to protect people from the new coronavirus.**



> FROM THE EDITOR

# DEAR READERS,

Reading is my favorite way to relax. But lately, I wish I could stick to fiction. Reading the news is making me worry. Do you feel the same way sometimes?

There's a lot of talk about the

coronavirus. It's hard to know what to believe and how to feel. So we decided to devote half of this magazine to this tough topic.

Below, we talk to an expert. He gives us some facts. On page 3, we explain what's happening worldwide at press time. On page 4, we look at the situation in schools. On page 5, we look at the financial impact of the coronavirus.

What else are you wondering about? Write to us anytime, at [tfkeditors@time.com](mailto:tfkeditors@time.com).

All the best,



**Andrea Delbanco**  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

> HEALTH

## CORONAVIRUS QUESTIONS?

**TFK's Rebecca Mordechai spoke with Dr. Juan Dumois. He's an infectious-disease specialist at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital, in Florida.**



### 1. The coronavirus causes an illness called COVID-19. What are its symptoms?

Symptoms include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath.

### 2. What should I do if I have these symptoms?

If you're sick, tell a trusted adult. Symptoms can be treated. It may take a few days to a week to feel better.

### 3. How does the virus spread?

If you're near someone who coughs or sneezes, you can inhale the virus. If they cough or sneeze on a surface, you can pick up the virus by touching it. Avoid getting the virus by washing your hands.

### 4. How dangerous is the virus to kids?

Children seem to be much less affected than adults. If kids do get sick, they're less likely to have severe symptoms.

### 5. What can I do to stay healthy?

Before touching your face, wash your hands for 20 seconds—that's "Happy Birthday" two times—with soap and running water, or use hand sanitizer. There are also things you can do to strengthen your immune system. That helps the body fight off infections. Your immune system can be made stronger if you eat a healthy diet. Getting enough sleep is also important.

### 6. What should I do if I'm feeling anxious about COVID-19?

Don't be shy about talking to a parent, a teacher, or to another trusted adult. Feeling out of control can also make you anxious. But you can have some control by following safety and health guidelines.

### 7. What are some common myths about the virus?

One myth is that wearing a mask is all you need to protect yourself from COVID-19. Washing your hands properly and frequently is more helpful.

### 8. What can schools do to protect students?

Schools should make hand sanitizer available. That's really important. Hand sanitizer needs to be rubbed on both hands, and it should take at least 15 seconds to dry. Doorknobs and desks should also be wiped down at least once a day, or ideally after each class.

Responses have been edited for length and clarity.

> WORLD

## PROTECTING THE PUBLIC

### What is being done to stop the spread of the coronavirus?

By Shay Maunz

As the new coronavirus travels around the world, communities are taking steps to stop its spread.

The new virus was first found in China in December. Since then, the virus has spread quickly. It causes the disease COVID-19. By March 12, cases had been found in 116 countries. Nearly 130,000 people have tested positive for it.

Most people get only mildly sick from COVID-19. But more than 4,700 have died. Many were over the age of 80. COVID-19 can be serious for people who are elderly or who have medical conditions. But most people make a full recovery.

In China, the government has put strict rules in place to limit the disease's spread. Nearly 60 million people have been

told to stay home. This is called quarantine. This seems to be working. The number of new cases in China has been falling.

Italy is seeing the largest outbreak of COVID-19 outside China. On March 9, Italian officials banned most people from travel within Italy until at least April 3. They've told the country's 60 million people to leave home only when necessary.

### COVID-19 IN THE U.S.

In the United States, about 1,300 cases of COVID-19 are confirmed. On March 11, President Donald Trump announced major restrictions on travel Europe to the U.S. will be halted for 30 days. This is to fight the **pandemic**.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says older adults and people with medical conditions should stay home and avoid crowds.

When a person tests positive for COVID-19, officials retrace his or her movements from before the diagnosis. They reach out to everyone who came in contact with the person. Those people are asked to go into quarantine for 14 days.

"Absolutely, we see a light at the end of the tunnel, but how quickly we get there depends on what countries do," Dr. Maria Van Kerkhove says. She's with the World Health Organization.

Scientists are racing to create a COVID-19 medicine and vaccine. According to U.S. health official Alex Azar, it could be 12 to 18 months before the vaccine's ready.

### A-Z Power Word

**pandemic** *noun*: an outbreak of disease that spreads very quickly and affects a large number of people throughout the world



**OFFICIAL RESPONSE** Vice President Mike Pence is leading the U.S. government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Here, he speaks during a March 6 news conference.







KAREN DUCEY—GETTY IMAGES



## Power Words

**transition** verb: to change**unparalleled** adjective: never seen or experienced before

SAFETY FIRST In Washington State, public schools in the Northshore district closed on March 5.

## SCHOOLS RESPOND

**COVID-19 has caused many schools to close. What does this mean for students?**

By March 12, almost 377 million students around the world were out of school because of COVID-19. That's according to the United Nations (U.N.). Schools have closed due to health emergencies before. But the U.N. says the "global scale and speed" of the current closures are "unparalleled."

So far, 46 countries have closed schools or announced plans to. Twenty-six, including China, Iran, and Italy, have closed *all* schools. These places have had severe outbreaks. China's is the most severe.

In the United States, schools and districts decide what actions to take. At press time, only a few had closed. Others are likely to follow. Many districts see closures as a last resort. Students may depend on schools for meals and after-school programs.

"We would only consider closing any particular school for very specific reasons," Bill de Blasio told the *New York Times* on March 9. He's the mayor of New York City. Its school district is the country's largest.

On March 11, Seattle public schools, in Washington State, said they would close. District superintendent Denise Juneau said it was a last resort but called the situation "unprecedented."

## ONLINE LEARNING

Schools are turning to online learning so lessons can continue. Washington State's Northshore School District closed schools on March 5, for up to 14 days. "We are simply trying to do our part to slow the spread of COVID-19," Michelle Reid wrote in a letter to families. She's the district superintendent. Learning will "transition from the classroom to the cloud," she added. And if students need computers? Reid says the district will loan them.

In Pennsylvania's Chester County, Malvern Preparatory School is open. But it's training its staff to teach online. "We hope not to close school," wrote Donald Reilly, head of the school, in a letter to students and staff. "However, we feel it is best to be prepared." —By Allison Singer

## A LOOK AT THE ECONOMY

TFK's Rebecca Katzman spoke with money expert Jean Chatzky, editor of *Your \$* magazine, about the impact of COVID-19 on the economy.

Because of COVID-19, people are being more careful. "They don't want to gather in groups where they may be in contact with somebody who has the virus" that causes it, money expert Jean Chatzky told *TIME for Kids*. Many are staying home and limiting travel. Large public events have been canceled. And when people aren't out spending money, businesses, employees, and the overall **economy** suffer.

Businesses are also having trouble keeping items in stock. Products used in the United States are often made in China. But China has been hit hard by COVID-19, so many things are in limited supply. These include some food items and toys.

There are also shortages of health and cleaning products. As people stock up, some stores are running out of items such as hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes. "These things are flying off the shelves," Chatzky says.

## STOCK MARKET TROUBLE

Concern about COVID-19 and its impact on the economy is affecting the stock market. This is where people can buy parts of public companies. These parts are called stocks or shares. When a company does well, its stocks go up. **Shareholders** make money. When a company does poorly, the opposite happens. Because the COVID-19 outbreaks are hurting many businesses, stock prices are falling.

On March 9, the stock market lost more money than it had in one day since 2008. "Markets hate uncertainty," Chatzky says. And unfortunately, no one knows how long the COVID-19 outbreaks will last or how widely the disease will spread. In a televised speech on March 11, President Donald Trump announced a number of actions the federal government would take to try to help the economy recover.

Chatzky says that it's important for kids to know about COVID-19 and to understand how it's affecting businesses and the economy. "The more you know," she says, "the less likely you are to be afraid."



TAYFUN COSKUN/ANADOLU AGENCY—GETTY IMAGES

**SOLD OUT** Some store shelves are nearly empty as people stock up on supplies.



## Power Words

**economy** noun: a system in which goods and services are provided, sold, and bought**shareholder** noun: someone who owns a part of a company or business



# GOING CASHLESS

## A-Z Power Words

**equity** *noun*: justice; fairness  
**inclusive** *adjective*: open to everyone  
**streamline** *verb*: to simplify

**WAYS TO PAY** Some stores are banning cash in favor of digital payment methods, such as smartphone apps.

Many stores and restaurants no longer accept cash. Not everyone thinks this is good.

Picture this: You saved up your allowance. You finally have enough money to buy that toy or game you've been dreaming of. You go to the store and find the item. But when you get to the register to pay, you see a sign: "Hello! We've gone cashless."

Situations like this may become common. More stores and restaurants have stopped taking cash as payment. Customers must pay with a credit card, a debit card, or a smartphone app.

Some business owners say that going cashless has **streamlined** their business. Staff members don't have to worry

about having enough money in the register to make change. They no longer have to take money to the bank.

But a lot of people say cashless stores are unfair. Some even say they should be illegal.

## "IT'S ABOUT EQUITY"

More than 8 million households in the United States don't have bank accounts. That's according to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. And many people, including kids, don't meet the requirements for a credit card.

"A cashless economy is not an **inclusive** economy," Tazra Mitchell told National Public Radio. She's a policy director at the DC Fiscal Policy Institute. That's in Washington, D.C. Mitchell says cashless stores are "discriminating against people."

And even those who have debit and credit cards might prefer paying with cash. "Cash is still very popular with consumers," Nick Bourke told *TIME for Kids*. He works at the Pew Charitable Trusts.

Lawmakers in some places have taken steps to ban cashless stores. New York City and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have already passed laws on the issue. In San Francisco, California, a law banning cashless stores was passed in May. It says most stores must allow customers to pay with cash.

Derek Remski helped write the San Francisco law. He works for the city. "It's really about **equity**," Remski says. "It's about understanding that not everyone has equal access to things." —By Karena Phan

# TALK TO ME

Do you know how to interview someone? Here's advice from TFK Kid Reporters and a professional journalist.

Before journalists write a story, they gather facts and details. One way they do this is with interviews.

Step one of conducting a successful interview? Research. "You don't want to arrive at your interview clueless," TFK Kid Reporter Zara Wierzbowski says. Take notes while you research. Later, this will help you write a list of specific questions for the person you're interviewing. "Don't just ask really basic questions," TFK Kid Reporter Mira McInnes says. "Take the time to **delve** deeper."

When it's time for the interview, do as TFK Kid Reporter Nora Wilson-Hartgrove says: "Be extra prepared!" Whether the interview is in person or over the phone, be ready. Bring your audio-recording device, a notebook, and pens or pencils. Don't forget your list of well-researched questions.

Then it's time to talk—and listen. "Try to connect with them on a personal level and have a conversation," TFK Kid Reporter Eshaan Mani says.

## TRICKY CONVERSATIONS

Some interviews are harder than others. For these, Jason Lipshutz has advice. He works at *Billboard*, a publication that covers the music business.

Lipshutz always does research before an interview. Still, people can surprise him. What does he do if the person he's interviewing mentions a topic he's not familiar with? "It's okay to ask, 'What do you mean?' or 'What is that?'" Lipshutz says. "It shows that you're paying attention and want to learn more."

Sometimes, journalists have to ask people about something difficult, such as a **controversy**. In these cases, Lipshutz says they should try to be sensitive. Instead of asking an uncomfortable question, address the topic indirectly. "See if they pick up the ball and run with it," he says. If they open up, listen closely. "The Number 1 job of an interviewer is to listen," he adds.

And if you're nervous? TFK Kid Reporter Zara has wise words. "Stay calm," she says. "The more you do it, the more you'll get the hang of it." —By Allison Singer



**SPEAK UP** TFK Kid Reporters at work. Top: Ruby interviews actor Karan Brar. Second row, from left: Tiana with author Jeffrey Kluger; Raunak meets former vice president Al Gore. Bottom, from left: Eshaan with a climate activist; Marley with author Kwame Alexander

## A-Z Power Words

**controversy** *noun*: a disagreement involving many people  
**delve** *verb*: to dig; to search for information



## BUILD IT!

Grab your hammer and your imagination and head to *Shop Class*. In the new Disney+ series, teams of two kids work with a teacher to build something. Their creations are judged by experts, including architects and interior designers.

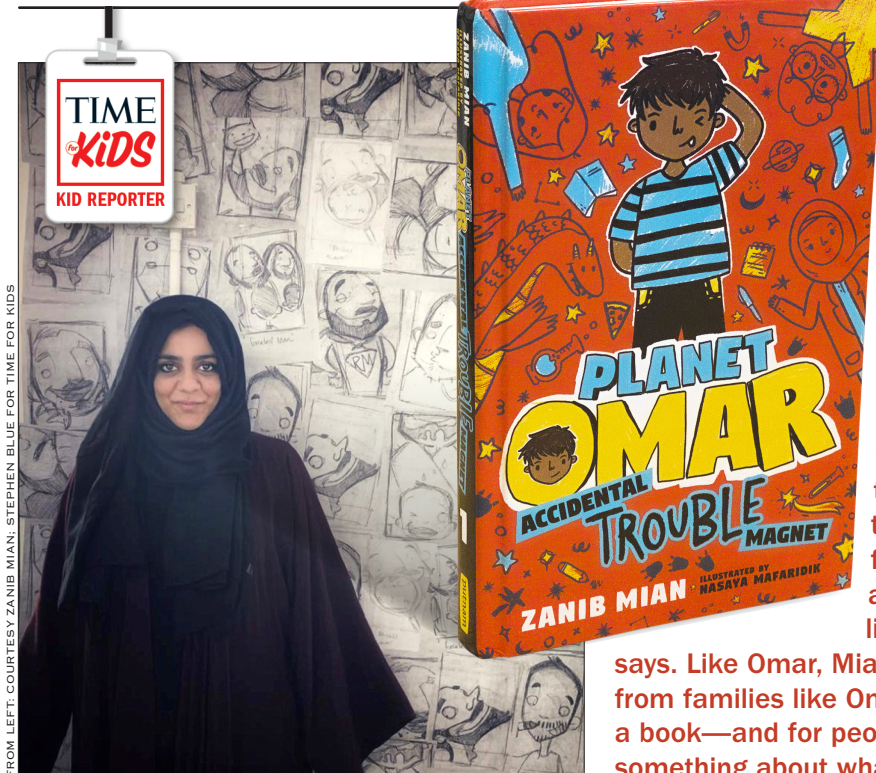
**ERIK SHAMSEDEEN**, 12 (third from right), appears in one episode. Erik and his partner, Hailey, were tasked with creating a hole for a miniature golf course. “We were given these surprise items: wood boards, fake grass, and a mechanical spinning wheel,” Erik told *TIME for Kids*. “We had to incorporate all the pieces.”

TONY RIVETTI—DISNEY+



Erik says the experience allowed him to make friends and collaborate. “I think kids will enjoy watching *Shop Class* because they will see the creativity and be inspired,” he says.

—By Constance Gibbs



FROM LEFT: COURTESY ZANIB MIAN; STEPHEN BLUE FOR TIME FOR KIDS

## MISCHIEF MAKER

In *Planet Omar: Accidental Trouble Magnet*, Omar and his family move to a new place. He must adjust to a new school, new classmates, and a terrible next-door neighbor. He also has to deal with a school bully. To cope, Omar turns to his silly imagination and his friend Charlie.

**ZANIB MIAN** wrote the book. She told TFK Kid Reporter Tyler Mitroff that her goal was to create a fun story that would make readers laugh. “The funny things that happen in the book are things that have happened in real life with my family or my friends,” she says. Like Omar, Mian is Muslim. She says she wants “kids from families like Omar’s to see themselves as the hero in a book—and for people from other backgrounds to learn something about what a Muslim family is like.”